

Memo from

To: Dr. J.B. Neilands  
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JOSHUA LEDERBERG

March 19, 1974

I have been talking over the phone with Dick Hammerschlag about the organization of the forthcoming ACS Symposium on Chemical Warfare. I certainly hope the ACS can be moved to take a more enlightened position on arms control initiatives in this area than it has done historically!

I wanted to suggest the name of Forrest Frank as a potential speaker on the program. He is a graduate student in the Department of Political Science and his doing his dissertation on the history on the decision making that led to the biological warfare treaty. He has also educated himself quite deeply about the new developments in binary chemical weapons and the threats that they pose to further steps in chemical disarmament. You can reach him at the Institute for Political Studies here at Stanford (or P.O.Box 8685, Stanford University; home telephone (408)266-7952).

Sincerely yours ,

P.S. I understand that Representative Wayne Owen has already been invited but was unable to accept an invitation for this occasion. His staff assistant Ms. Deedee Corradini was, I found over the telephone, very well informed indeed about the binary issue and perhaps you could persuade her to take a part.

(over)

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(page 2)

P.S. continued

I do not know whether we agree about the tactics of the steps that ought to be and can be attempted as much as we surely agree on objectives. I think it is going to be very difficult to pry loose a definition of and commitment against sub-lethal chemicals and I foresee enormously greater threats from the continued development of nerve gas and other lethals. For that reason I would concentrate my own efforts on the binary problem and not attempt to couple it with the recognition of herbicides and tear gas as chemical weapons. But this is simply my own assessment of the political realities of the moment evaluated in terms of possible success in this particular sphere. I know that others will make a different assessment or may have different goals.

cc: Forrest Frank  
Hammerschlag

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